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FEDERAL BUREAU

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INVESTIGATION

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated at WASHINGTON, D. C.

File No. 100-467

Report Made At WASHINGTON, D. C.	Date when Made OCT 15 1941	Period for Which Made 7/26/41	Report Made by JOHN C. O'CONNOR JCO:AMB
Title Julius Schlesinger alias JULIUS STERN; SIDNEY SCHLESINGER; SYLVIA SCHLESINGER REISS; SARAH SCHLESINGER; ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER; NANCY NIMITZ		Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY (C)	

Synopsis of Facts:

Information received from Informant T-1, husband of one of the subjects, that JULIUS SCHLESINGER and known as front in Communist Party, is a leading young Communist; that Communist meetings are held under his direction at 1300 Ingraham St., N. W., Washington, D. C.; that he is a close friend of HUDSON WELLS, young Washington Communist leader, and NANCY NIMITZ, daughter of Admiral NIMITZ, Navy Department. Metropolitan Police Department report reflects JULIUS SCHLESINGER revealed by direct testimony before the Civil Service Commission that NANCY NIMITZ had been to "gatherings" at the former's home. Officials at George Washington University where NANCY NIMITZ and HUDSON WELLS and JULIUS SCHLESINGER were students, advise Miss NIMITZ was considered a "Leftist" and that the three of them were active in a movement to institute a branch of the American Youth Congress on the Campus. Informant T-1 stated that SYLVIA SCHLESINGER REISS, recently dismissed from O.N.I. for Communist activities, was promised a job in Russia by SIDNEY SCHLESINGER, a brother, if she lost her job with the O.N.I. SYLVIA once asked T-1 to join Communist Party. SIDNEY SCHLESINGER alleged to have connections in New York through young Communist League, is partner in a law firm reputed to represent Communists. He is the husband of MARY SCHLESINGER, an employee of the Department of Labor, presently under investigation for violation of the Hatch Act.

Approved and Forwarded:	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in These spaces
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⑤ Bureau 2-Boston n 31	2-New York (Information) 4-Washington Field	100-414893-1 RECORDED

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T-1 added that FREIDA S. NEWMAN, employee of Rural Electrification Administration, was secretary of the League for Peace & Democracy; that she attended Communist meetings. ABRAHAM and SARAH SCHLESINGER, parents, reported to be committee members of Communist group. In connection with investigation of NANCY NIMITZ, the Metropolitan Police Department submitted a report to this office concerning Rear Admiral NIMITZ and one FREDERICK CHARLES WEISNER but no investigation is being conducted by this office on the two last named individuals.

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DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

This investigation is predicated upon a complaint received from Informant T-1 on September 21, 1940 by E. E. ABBOTT, Special Employee of the Washington Field Office. This memorandum is set out in full:

At 6:38 P.M. Informant T-1 called in person with reference to information concerning Communists he desired to report. T-1 particularly desired that his name be kept strictly confidential and he asked that the source of the information not be divulged.

T-1 advised that he has been separated from his wife, SYLVIA SCHLESINGER REISS, for several months, and that she is employed by the Office of the Naval Intelligence by Captain ROOD. She, at the present time, resides with her father and mother at 1300 Ingraham Street, N. W. At this home also lives her brother, JULIUS SCHLESINGER (single). Another brother, SIDNEY SCHLESINGER, formerly lived at this address, but does not any more. SIDNEY is married, and his wife is MARY SCHLESINGER. JULIUS, according to T-1, is a leading young Communist and is known under the name of STERN on the Party books. The father and mother of SYLVIA, he stated, are Communist committee members of a Communist camp, Camp Patuxent, near Washington, D. C. At 1300 Ingraham St., N. W., are held Communist meetings under the direction of JULIUS, and members are admitted to this place by membership cards only. Of late, no warning is given in advance, but the Communists meet in different homes of the members.

Concerning JULIUS SCHLESINGER, T-1 stated that he formerly attended George Washington University and studied economics; that he had recently passed a Civil Service examination for Junior Professional Assistant Economist, and he was being rather careful of his behavior as he thought the Civil Service was investigating him for this position. JULIUS gives lectures for the "group" in dialectic materialism. He is about 21, blond, wears thick glasses, height five feet nine inches, weighs 150 pounds, and has gray eyes. He is a close friend of HUDSON WELLS. Both these individuals call meetings. JULIUS has an unlimited telephone, and so calls party members more frequently. They went to Mexico last summer and gave "political" talks when they returned. Associated with this group was NANCY NIMITZ, daughter of Admiral NIMITZ (Navy Department), who gives parties at her house for the "group". NANCY participated with HUDSON and JULIUS in disturbances at George Washington University, and she is thought to stand in with the party although probably is not a member.

A sister of the complainant's wife is FRIEDA SCHLESINGER, who was formerly married to a man named GILMAN, but now is married to JEROME NEWMAN. FRIEDA is employed by the Rural Electrification Administration. She was treasurer and secretary of the League for Peace and Democracy (formerly League Against War and Fascism). T-1 advised that FRIEDA is not a party member, but did participate in the meetings at 1300 Ingraham Street until she married the second time. Her second husband is wealthy and she now has other interests. However, FRIEDA, two years ago, traveled around the world and visited Russia, and T-1 was of the opinion that she met important party officials there at the time.

SIDNEY SCHLESINGER at one time promised SYLVIA that if on account of family affiliations she lost her job at the Office of Naval Intelligence, he would see to it that she would get a job in Russia. It appears that SIDNEY has connections in New York through the Young Communist League, and that he gave a course there.

T-1 stated that SYLVIA had access to confidential data at the Office of Naval Intelligence and was very highly regarded there, and she was a very competent worker and stood "ace high" with her boss. In this connection her family are aware of her position. It is thought that the Office of Naval Intelligence

have a list of Communist suspects who are employed at the Washington Navy Yard, and he has heard that a Dr. MINKIN, a woman doctor and a close friend of this group, is on this list. T-1 would not state positively that his wife gave out information to the Communists, but did state that she was in a place where she could do, and that she, since leaving him, was closer than ever with this group, since she lived with them. T-1 left the impression that she might have been intimate with some of the members of late, but that he would not go into that. SYLVIA and he, before they separated, had a joint account at the Navy Department Credit Association, and without consulting him, she withdrew all their money, claiming that she had lost the savings account book and so obtaining one (he has the other one). T-1 stated that the Office of Naval Intelligence was investigating their employees as a routine procedure, and his wife was, no doubt, being investigated along with others. In this connection he advised that she had given false information to the Navy and Civil Service Commission regarding her experience. She stated that she had worked in a New York law office for two and one-half years, when, as a matter of fact, she had worked only two and one-half weeks. At the time she worked there, her brother SIDNEY was a clerk in this office. T-1 stated that she could probably get by with this statement, since this firm would be instructed to back her up, but he was unable to state the name of the firm. At the present time, SYLVIA has a Civil Service Rating as a clerk-stenographer, and took an examination in 1937 at the Civil Service Commission.

It should be noted that T-1 stated that he was not a party member and was not in sympathy with them, but had married into the family; that he had tried to persuade his wife to have nothing to do with them, but was unable to do so, and that at one time he was offered a job with the Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, and wanted to leave and take her out of this group, but that she refused to go. According to T-1, he was investigated in connection with this job, and no doubt the Bureau has a file on him, but that he is a loyal, patriotic American and wants to give the Government the benefit of his information.

T-1 said that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER is a lawyer connected with the law firm of SCHLESINGER and LEVINE in the Southern Building. This firm, he alleged, is a well-known Communist law firm and represents agitators and labor groups. SIDNEY and his wife, MARY,

are active, he stated, in the party. LEVINE's family is also Communist, and his father and mother are old-time members, and they came from New York about fifteen years ago. The father is a partner of MALAKOFF (investigated by the Dies Committee) and their place of business is Malakoff & Levine, 1235 W St., N. W., telephone Dupont 5872, and they are listed in the telephone book as "S. Malakoff and J. Levine." SIDNEY SCHLESINGER organized the cafeteria workers into a union and can call them into a strike at any time.

T-1 described SIDNEY SCHLESINGER as follows:

Age	33 years
Height	5' 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Build	Heavy set
Hair	Dark brown
Weight	165 pounds
Peculiarities	Mustache

T-1 advised that his wife's father is ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER and he resides at 1300 Ingraham Street, telephone Randolph 2511, and her mother is SARAH SCHLESINGER, of the same address. The father has a store at 2006 18th Street, N. W., telephone Hobart 9697, and Communist literature has been received there.

In the event photographs of any of these members of this group are desired, T-1 said that he could furnish them from his album.

T-1 further advised that before he had separated from his wife, he had tried to get her to give up her position at the Office of Naval Intelligence because of the fact that she was so strongly identified with Communists, but that she refused to do so, and that she had informed her boss that her husband wanted her to leave, but that she liked her work. Since she is so well thought of at the Office of Naval Intelligence, T-1 said he would not tell officials there of her connections because he would not be believed.

It should be mentioned that T-1 stated he was reluctant to come here and tell his story because SIDNEY, who is a lawyer, had threatened that if he was the cause of SYLVIA losing her job, action would be taken to make him pay her alimony and also a suit would be brought against him for failure to turn over to his wife

all her effects in the apartment which he and his wife formerly occupied together, but which he now occupies alone.

On September 14, 1940 Special Agent J. W. MENZIE, of the Washington Field Office, received the following telephonic information from one JOHN LINCOLN. Complete detailed information of this conversation is immediately set out below:

On September 3, 1940, a Mr. JOHN LINCOLN, who refused to identify himself further, telephonically contacted the Washington Field Office and stated that he desired to report a person by the name of JULIUS SCHLESINGER who is presently employed by the Wages and Hour Department. Mr. LINCOLN stated that Mr. SCHLESINGER was an economist in this department. He remarked that SCHLESINGER had formerly attended George Washington University.

Mr. LINCOLN stated that SCHLESINGER was a member of the Communist Party and that meetings are held at his home which is at 13th and Ingraham Sts. He stated that at one of the meetings, the group discussed how to go about their affairs in case the party was outlawed. Mr. LINCOLN also stated that SCHLESINGER goes by the name of JULIUS STERN at these meetings. He also mentioned that Mr. SCHLESINGER has a brother who is a leader in Communistic activities in this city.

It is to be noted that by letter of September 28, 1940 the memorandum submitted by Special Employee E. E. ABBOTT, previously referred to in this report, was forwarded to the Bureau. On December 17, 1940 the Washington Field Office by letter requested the Metropolitan Police Department to conduct an investigation into the activities and affiliations of JULIUS SCHLESINGER, SIDNEY SCHLESINGER, ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER, HUDSON WELLS and NANCY NIMITZ. Accordingly, on May 31, 1941, this office received a report from the Metropolitan Police Department through Captain EARL P. HARTMAN. This report, submitted by Private LOUIS M. SNYDER of the Special Investigations Squad of the Metropolitan Police Department, is herewith set out in full:

A check of the records of the registrar's office, George Washington University, discloses that NANCY NIMITZ enrolled there as a student in 1936. She was graduated with an A.B. degree, major in English in 1940 and was accorded honors for exceptional scholastic ability.

During her last year at the school she made a request to be admitted into medical school upon her graduation from the liberal arts college. This request was granted in view of the fact that she was considered an excellent student.

Shortly before graduation Miss NIMITZ wrote a letter to the registrar saying she deemed it inadvisable to attend medical school at this time and rejected the opportunity that had been granted her at her own request.

Additional information obtained from the records indicated that NANCY was born in New London, Conn., on September 13, 1919, and that she is the daughter of Admiral CHESTER W. NIMITZ, Bureau of Navigation.

The 1941 City Directory lists NANCY and her sister CATHERINE as living in apartment 43, 2222 Que St., N. W., and their parents as living in apartment 42 of the same building. CATHERINE's occupation is given as "readers advisor" Public Library and NANCY's as an "assistant" in the Public Library.

The records of the Investigative Division of the Civil Service Commission revealed that Agent PAUL LEHMAN had conducted an investigation into the activities of JULIUS SCHLESINGER and SYLVIA SCHLESINGER REISS which resulted in their dismissal from government service. This investigation revealed by direct testimony of JULIUS SCHLESINGER that he knew NANCY and that she has been to "gatherings" at his home. The above records of the Civil Service Commission are available, if necessary.

Interview with Mr. CHARLES E. MERRY, business manager of George Washington University, reflects that he remembers NANCY NIMITZ very well. He stated that she was considered a "leftist" on the campus and was a close associate of ROY HUDSON WELLS and JULIUS SCHLESINGER. He said that the three were seen sitting together frequently in the campus drug store at the corner of 21st and G Sts., N. W.

Mr. MERRY said that they were active in the American Student Union, a branch of the American Youth Congress which was active on the campus in spite of being banned by the University. He said that they were also active in the Magna Charta Club although their names do not appear on the membership list.

Mr. MERRY recalled that in a parade held on the campus last year as a protest against war, NANCY NIMITZ carried a banner and paraded.

Mr. MERRY understood that NANCY's father, Admiral NIMITZ, knew about his daughter's activities but considered her harmless. However, Mr. MERRY did not consider her harmless and said that it was her influence that enabled SYLVIA SCHLESINGER REISS to obtain her position in the office of Naval Intelligence from which she was recently dismissed following Mr. LEHMAN's investigation of her Communistic activities.

Interview with Mr. WINFIELD D. BENNETT, assistant professor of Public Speaking, George Washington, reflects that about two years ago NANCY NIMITZ came to his office and made a request for recognition of a branch of the American Youth Congress to be formed on the campus and to be called the American Student Union. NANCY stated that a HUDSON WELLS, a student at the University was to be the organizer of this union. Mr. BENNETT refused to grant this request upon the grounds that University rules forbid affiliation of local clubs with national organizations.

Mr. BENNETT said that he had since learned that the American Student Union was formed and held meetings in spite of the University rules and that HUDSON WELLS and NANCY NIMITZ were active in it.

Interview with Dr. DORRELL YOUNG, professor of Zoology, George Washington University, reflects that he is well acquainted with NANCY NIMITZ as he had to pass on her for admission to the School of Medicine. Dr. YOUNG described her as a brilliant and beautiful girl with plenty of "brass". He said that he was repelled from her because she appeared to be "all steel inside" and gave him the impression that she was capable of doing "anything".

He said that she was considered a radical in her views and was supposed to be associated with the banned Student Union. Dr. YOUNG said that he knew RHODA EPSTEIN, a student at the University very well and that she has told him that she was an intimate friend of the NIMITZ family. Dr. YOUNG described RHODA EPSTEIN as a self admitted Communist and very radical in her views. He suggested that he would attempt to engage RHODA in conversation with a view towards drawing her out about NANCY. If Dr. YOUNG is successful in his effort, the information will be submitted as a supplement to this report.

The files of this office disclose the following information on RHODA EPSTEIN:

CP 1501 - In charge of housing arrangements for the American Youth Congress pilgrimage to Washington from March 9 to 13, 1938. She was also a delegate to this Congress.

Attended a Washington Peace Mobilization meeting held in National Press Building on August 20, 1940.

In an interview with Mrs. VINNIE BARROWS, director of Personnel Guidance, George Washington University, she spoke very well of NANCY NIMITZ as far as her scholarship and personal behavior was concerned, describing her as a brilliant girl, and a very nice person. However, Mrs. BARROW said that the general impression on the campus was that NANCY was radical. Mrs. BARROWS implied that she thought the whole NIMITZ family were Communistic, but had no proof to back up her conviction.

A check of the membership list of the Washington Book Shop, 916 17th Street, N. W., discloses that NANCY NIMITZ appears as a member in their files.

As stated in the report of Private SNYDER, a later report would be submitted by that Department concerning the NIMITZ family. On July 4, 1941 this office received this additional report concerning Rear Admiral CHESTER W. NIMITZ. Although this office did not request any information whatever concerning the activities or affiliations of Admiral NIMITZ, the Metropolitan Police Department saw fit

to secure this information and voluntarily submitted it to the Washington Field Office. Although no investigation will be conducted of the information set out immediately below, it is believed advisable that this information should be submitted to the Bureau. The additional report of Private LOUIS M. SNYDER is herein set out:

Information was received that MARY SPARGO, a Dies Committee investigator, and a former reporter for the Washington Daily News, had conducted an investigation into the dismissal of one FREDERICK CHARLES WEISNER or WIESNER, 18 Samoset Road, Quincy, Mass., from his position with the Navy Department, during which reference was made to Rear Admiral CHESTER W. NIMITZ, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation.

An interview with Miss SPARGO disclosed that she made this investigation while still employed as a reporter on the Washington Daily News. The information that she obtained in her investigation was of such a nature that she dared not print it in its entirety and even then published it as though it came from the Dies Committee.

At my request, Miss SPARGO compiled a memorandum from the notes made by her during the investigation. In view of the nature of the information learned about NANCY NIMITZ, (see F.B.I. file 100-467), I feel that it is advisable to forward a copy of Miss SPARGO's memorandum, together with the attached newspaper clipping of the Daily News of March 21, 1941:

"Late in February, 1941, as a reporter for the Washington Daily News I started to investigate the case of one FREDERICK CHARLES WEISNER or WIESNER, 18 Samoset Road, Quincy, Mass., who resigned February 3, 1941, after investigation, as chief electrical engineer at the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Yard at Quincy, Mass. He was attached to the Navy Department office and had access to all confidential information.

"Now I learned also that until August 14, 1940 he had been in the U. S. Naval Intelligence Reserve. His rank was that of Lieut. Commander and he had been in the reserve eleven years. He was given an honorable discharge.

"I called Navy Personnel and was connected with Extension 232. The WIESNER file is No. 62979. The girl in personnel thought the call was from a Navy Department so she got out the file and read it to me.

"After his discharge on October 8, 1940, WIESNER appealed to Rear Admiral CHESTER W. NIMITZ for reinstatement as a reserve officer. He said that although he was an American by naturalization and not by birth, he had married an American, and had no sympathy for the present German regime.

"He asked Admiral NIMITZ that the record of his former citizenship and service in a foreign navy be destroyed since it had been a factor in his being discharged as a reservist.

"I said to the girl reading the correspondence, 'But surely that record was not destroyed, was it? The record is just what we want down here.' (Attached story will show you we thought he was an officer on the U-20, which sank the Lusitania.)

"The girl, whose name I did not get, replied, 'Well the record must have been destroyed because it isn't here. It was here not so long ago but I can't find it now and this is the only file.'

"I then said to the file clerk, 'Why his old German service record must be around. That is just what we want. You know he is trying to get back into the service. Did Admiral NIMITZ order those papers removed?'

"She replied, 'Well he addressed all his correspondence to Admiral NIMITZ, but I don't see any orders here to have that record destroyed, so I wouldn't know who took the papers out of the file.'

"My city editor, CHARLES STEVENSON, was close by when I made the call, and I informed him at the time that the papers were missing from the files.

"Later, when I had more information on the case I took it up to Vinson of the House Naval Affairs and Representative BATES of Massachusetts, committee member, hoping that they would investigate further so we would be safe in breaking the story.

"I had felt that because of the missing record the story should be taken to KNOX, but the city editor felt that KNOX probably would attempt to sit on the whole story. VINSON didn't excite over the missing papers so I finally broke the story with Mr. DIES' permission as coming from the Dies Committee."

(Signed) MARY SPARGO.

By a memorandum for the file dated November 30, 1940 Special Agent J. C. BUCKBEE set out information given to him by Informant T-2 concerning SYLVIA REISS. The contents of this memorandum are set out in full:

While contacting Informant T-2 in connection with an unrelated matter, T-2 revealed that he was recently informed by a client, T-1, listed in the City Directory as living with his wife at 811 Quincy St., N. W., Apartment 305, Georgia 8643, that his wife, SYLVIA was employed as a stenographer by CNI and that members of her family were continuously holding secret meetings believed to be Communist, with admission by card only.

T-1 did not divulge where these meetings were held, who the involved members of the family are or whether SYLVIA was herself actively associated with her family in these ventures.

T-2 also stated that SYLVIA's maiden name was SCHLESINGER; that she has a brother, SYDNEY C. SCHLESINGER, an attorney, who according to T-2 resides at 1300 Ingraham St., N. W., and that he thought the meetings were held at that address.

SYDNEY C. SCHLESINGER, attorney, is listed in the Washington Telephone Directory (Summer-Fall 1940) as residing at 1441 Spring Road, N. W., with offices in the Southern Building.

T-2 further advised that T-1 had come to him in connection with divorce proceedings and he refused to take the case. Another attorney is apparently handling the case. He also stated that he understood that T-1 and his wife are now separated with a divorce pending and that he does not know where SYLVIA presently resides.

T-2 requested that his name and the fact that he revealed the foregoing information be kept in strictest confidence, inasmuch as he was in effect violating his attorney-client relationship. He stated he thought T-1 could be contacted for further information and that the Bureau could have confidence in T-1's loyalty to the United States, explaining that T-1 had refused to have anything to do with his wife's radical family, which led to their estrangement.

A review of the internal security files of this office reveals nothing concerning T-1 or his wife SYLVIA. However, SYDNEY C. SCHLESINGER, referred to above, (wife MARY) together with his brother EMANUEL SCHLESINGER are listed as members of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action.

The Washington Field Office is in receipt of a report from the New York Field Division entitled JULIUS D. SCHLESINGER - MISCELLANEOUS - MAILING LISTS OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES, New York file 62-7006, concerning a statement received from one J. D. SCHLESINGER in which he denied ever having seen or handled any Federal mailing lists. However, it is believed that the JULIUS SCHLESINGER, the subject of this case, is living in Washington and that he is not identical with the subject of the New York report.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

Will re-contact Informant T-1 for more specific information that he may have concerning subjects in this case in reference to their Communistic affiliations and tendencies.

Will consult the Washington Field Office indices for any information that the records of that office will reflect which are pertinent to the instant investigation.

Will make a thorough but discreet investigation in the neighborhood of 1300 Ingraham St., N. W., which is allegedly a meeting place of this Communist group as well as the home of a few of the subjects.

Will consult the files of the O.N.I. for any information of that Department of the Government which is available concerning SILEVIA SCHLESINGER REISS.

Will contact the appropriate officials at George Washington University in order to secure all information concerning the activities of JULIUS SCHLESINGER, HUDSON WELLS and NANCY NIMITZ while at that University.

It is to be recalled that these three individuals were supposed to be the leaders of a group to form a branch of the American Youth Congress on that Campus.

Will review the Police Department and Credit Bureau records on all of the subjects in instant case for any pertinent information contained therein.

Will make appropriate inquiry around 2006 18th St., N. W., the place of employment of the parents ABRAHAM and SARAH SCHLESINGER.

Will make appropriate inquiry as to the location of Camp Patuxent and learn if Communist meetings are held there.

Will attempt to learn the identity of JOHN LINCOLN and if successful, will question him for any other pertinent information he

may have concerning SYLVIA SCHLESINGER and the other subjects in this case.

Will make a thorough neighborhood inquiry around 1441 Spring Road, N. W., the residence of SIDNEY and MARY SCHLESINGER.

Will inquire of the Manager of the Southern Building where SIDNEY SCHLESINGER has law offices with an individual by the name of LEVINE for any pertinent information concerning possible Communist activities on the part of both subject SIDNEY SCHLESINGER and his law partner.

- PENDING -

The following is the name of Confidential Informant T-1, mentioned in the report of Special Agent JOHN C. O'CONNOR in the case entitled JULIUS SCHLESINGER with alias, ET AL, INTERNAL SECURITY (C), at Washington, D. C., dated **OCT 15 1941**

Mr. MEYER REISS, 811 Quincy St., N. W., presently employed in the Personnel Department, War Department, new Social Security Building.

Confidential Informant T-2 is MAXWELL A. OSTROW, Attorney, 835 Nunsey Bldg., Washington, D. C.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

FILE NO. 100-467

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	6/5/42	4/20; 5/22; 6/1/42	O. H. SELLS OHS:PGJ
TITLE CHANGED: SIDNEY SCHLESINGER; SARAH SCHLESINGER; ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER; SAMUEL LEVINE		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SIDNEY SCHLESINGER is a member of a law firm known as Levine & Schlesinger with offices in the Southern Building. LEVINE is known to the Washington Police Department as an attorney for the Communist Party. SIDNEY SCHLESINGER is reported to act in the same capacity. SIDNEY SCHLESINGER was formerly a member of the New York Bar and was admitted to practice before the District of Columbia Bar in 1937. LEVINE recommended JOHN WILBERT POOR for admission to the District of Columbia Bar in 1939, at which time POOR admitted he was at one time a member of the Communist Party, and stated that he had frequently attended meetings with LEVINE. ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER and his wife SARAH operate a cleaning and dying establishment in the District. They formerly resided at 1300 Ingraham Street, but presently reside at 4721 49th Street, N. W.

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REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent JOHN C. O'CONNOR at Washington, D. C., dated October 15, 1941.

Title of this case is being marked changed in order to include SAMUEL LEVINE as a subject. LEVINE is a member of the law firm of Levine & Schlesinger and is reported to act as an attorney for the Communist Party in the District of Columbia.

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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5 - Bureau 3 - Washington Field		EX-10	INDEXED - A	

Subject JULIUS SCHLESINGER alias JULIUS STERN and SYLVIA SCHLESINGER REISS, and also NANCY NIMITZ are being dropped from the title, inasmuch as information concerning their activity has already been reported.

In the Washington Field Office file entitled "MARY MANDEZ SCHLESINGER, Assistant Clerk-Stenographer, Division of Labor Standards, Department of Labor; INTERNAL SECURITY - HATCH ACT" complete information has been set forth concerning subject JULIUS SCHLESINGER and SYLVIA SCHLESINGER REISS.

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. LEO FITZER, Superintendent of Southern Building, advised that SAMUEL LEVINE and SIDNEY SCHLESINGER were attorneys who occupied space under a sublease from the Law Firm of Schall & McKenny. There are six or seven attorneys in this office, including: T. D. SCHALL, H. C. MCKENNY, W. D. HOLLOWELL, CHARLES BRANDT, NORMAN BOWELLS, JAMES J. BURKE, ALBERT BRICK, R. H. MITCHELL, and LEVINE and SCHLESINGER. It is Mr. FITZER's opinion that LEVINE and SCHLESINGER handle mostly petty labor cases, although the exact nature of their work is unknown. He has no knowledge concerning their background or possible connection with any Communist activity. He did advise that he was under the impression that they intended to move to new quarters within the very near future.

The files of the Committee on Admissions and Grievances of the District Bar as furnished to the writer reflect that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER was admitted to the New York Bar as of November 16, 1931. He made application for admission to the District of Columbia Bar on June 10, 1937, at which time he was vouched for by SAMUEL LEVINE. In his application for admission to the District Bar, it was noted that an affidavit was submitted as to his good character by JESSE L. STERN, who stated he was an attorney with law office at 1441 Broadway, New York City, and that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER served his clerkship in the firm of Silverman & Stern. This firm was dissolved in 1932.

It was noted that PHILIP SILVERMAN vouched for the character of SIDNEY SCHLESINGER, stating that he, SILVERMAN, was an attorney with office at 512 5th Avenue, New York City, and that he had formerly been a member of the Firm of Silverman & Stern, in which SCHLESINGER had been employed as a clerk.

The files of the Committee on Admissions and Grievances of the District Bar concerning SAMUEL LEVINE were made available to the writer, and reflect that LEVINE made application June 10, 1929, at which time he indicated he was born in Newark, New Jersey, and that his father, JOSEPH, resided at

3127 Warder Street, Washington, D. C. LEVINE indicated in his application that he graduated from Central High School, Washington, D. C., in 1924, and attended George Washington University, graduating from the Law School in 1929. He listed as references in his application the following: Mr. D. CULLEN, 1475 Spring Place, Washington, D. C.; Mr. J. SILVERMAN, 1420 Chapin Street; Mr. D. RUSSAKOFF, 1919 19th Street, N. W.; and Dr. L. MINKIN, Victor Building, Washington, D. C. It was noted that there were no explanations in the Grievances Committee files concerning the activity of SAMUEL LEVINE relative to his law practice.

The Washington Police Department files, Public Relations Squad, contained a report of the parade of the Washington Friends of Spanish Democracy on February 26, 1938. The parade was composed of about 85 cars and two trucks. They gathered for a mass meeting in Rock Creek Park near the Shoreham Hotel. This gathering consisted, according to the report, of the following organizations:

"Womens International League for Peace and Freedom,
The American League for Peace and Democracy,
The American Student Union,
The Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade,
The International Workers Order,
The Washington Labor Peace Committee,
The National Negro Congress,
The Spanish Committee for the Defense of Democracy,
The United Retail Employees, and
The Workmen's Circle."

It was pointed out that "known Radical present at the meeting was SAM LEVINE, Attorney for the Communist Party".

The Public Relations Squad files further reflect that in a report written January 21, 1936, that The Friends of the Soviet Union held a meeting at which SCOTT NEARING predicted a downfall of capitalism. This meeting was held Sunday, January 19, 1936, in the Typographical Temple, 428 G Street, N. W. Among those attending it was SAMUEL LEVINE, local attorney.

The files contained a report dated February 7, 1935, which furnished an account of the refusal of the Community Center to allow "The New Theatrical Group" permission to rehearse "A Worker's Play" in Central High School, February 6, 1935. The report continues "SAMUEL LEVINE, Communist attorney, was observed attempting to convince Mr. WYNNE that the group should be admitted."

It was further noted that after Mr. ~~WYNNE~~ refused admission, the group departed. The Public Relations Squad has a photostatic copy of the letterhead of the former "Tom Mooney Defense Committee of Washington, D. C.", Room 505A, Insurance Building, and it was noted that SAMUEL LEVINE's name appeared on the letterhead.

The files of Stone's Mercantile Agency do not contain any information concerning SAMUEL LEVINE except a notation of judgment entered against LEVINE and SCHLESINGER, January 31, 1940, by the Woodhouse Stationery Company for merchandise valued at \$22.50. Judgment was entered February 14, 1940, for \$18.

The Credit Bureau, 1221 G Street, N. W., made available its file on Mrs. SAMUEL LEVINE and in a report dated June 24, 1941, it was noted that she resided with her husband at 220 Allison Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and indicated that they had resided there since March, 1941. The report reflects that LEVINE formerly resided at 4703 Kansas Avenue, N. W., from 1938 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. JOSEPH LEVINE. The parents formerly resided at 3127 Warder Street, N. W. The report reflects that LEVINE is an attorney by profession; that he is an associate of SIDNEY SCHLESINGER and specializes in labor law and is on a retainer with several C. I. O. leaders.

Mr. AUSTIN CANFIELD is a member of the Committee on Admissions and Grievances of the District Bar. He was interviewed in his office in the Woodward Building, at which time he advised that he secured certain information concerning SAMUEL LEVINE in connection with his examination of JOHN WILBERT POOR in his application for admission to the District Bar. POOR was sponsored by SAMUEL LEVINE. POOR, at the time of his application for admission to the Bar in 1939, was attending GEORGE WASHINGTON University Law School, and in questioning him, Mr. CANFIELD developed the information that he had previously made a trip to Russia at the expense of the local Communist group, and that he had attended a training school for a period of time while in Russia, and that upon his return here, he had three objects in mind. The first was to finish law school and become admitted to the District Bar as soon as possible. The second was to organize units for Communistic activity at George Washington University, and the third was to eventually become head of the Communist Party in the District. Mr. CANFIELD permitted the writer to examine a memorandum which he had written and submitted to the Committee of Admissions relative to the application of POOR. This memorandum is as follows:

"In examining this Candidate, I came across the character reference signed by LYLE G. BOUCHER, 2846 30th Street, N. E. To the question 'Remarks' he answered: 'His political views were not considered when the above questions were answered.' I pressed the Candidate as to why the character reference would make such a statement and as a result established that the Candidate is a member of an organization known as 'The Friends of the Soviet Republic'; that he has been actively engaged in activities which I think might be reasonably be termed Communistic; that he returned from Russia just prior to the outbreak of the war; that he had been in Russia as part of his party activities. He stated in substance that he did not find things in Russia exactly as they were represented to him and that now he was not sure whether or not he was as interested as he had been prior to making the trip. Among other things, he stated he would not volunteer nor submit to Military Service should the United States be involved - that he would have to find out 'which side was right in the war.'

"He indicated that the present form of government 'might be allright' - that he did not have any definite idea now because his mind was confused.

"His application is endorsed by SAMUEL LEVINE, who as the Committee might know, has been the attorney for a lot of Labor agitators and who for a long time I have definitely suspected of complete Communistic tie-ups.---"

POOR's file with the Committee on Admissions of the District Bar contains a letter written by POOR relative to the information which he had previously furnished, concerning SAMUEL LEVINE. The letter, dated November 26, 1939, Washington, D. C., is as follows:

"I am extremely sorry that in my confusion and eagerness to be frank with you, I gave the name of one person whom I said I remembered as a member of the Communist Party. My conscience tells me that I exceeded the limits of my rights. Since my interview with you was not in the nature of a grand jury investigation to discover crime, only one person has the right to tell what he or she is - whether it concerns Communism, or any other subject - that particular person, and no one else.

"Besides after thinking things over, and my memory becoming refreshed as to the facts, I find to my utter dismay that I am not even sure the person stigmatized was an actual member of the Communist Party. And even if one were a Communist four years ago, this is no indication that such a person is one today.

"I retract the name which I gave and ask you to blot out and erase it completely from the record.

Yours truly,

JOHN WILBERT POOR"

Mr. CANFIELD stated that he was unable to ascertain from POOR whether he made the above retractions concerning SAMUEL LEVINE as a result of fear of bodily injury, although he had a feeling that this might be the case. POOR admitted that he was a member of the Communist Party and exhibited to Mr. CANFIELD a party membership card and stated that he had met SAMUEL LEVINE at various meetings, but later refused to amplify these statements.

The files of the Credit Bureau, 1221 G Street, N. W., concerning information on SIDNEY SCHLESINGER were made available to the writer, and in a report dated June 25, 1941, it was noted that he resided at 124 Webster Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and that he had resided at the above address since May of 1940. He formerly resided at 1441 Spring Road, N. W., Apartment #303, and prior to that, he resided at 1300 Ingraham Street, N. W. Prior to coming to Washington, D. C., he resided at 3204 Holland Avenue, Bronx, New York. His wife, MARY SCHLESINGER is employed as an Assistant Clerk-Typist in the Labor Department, Washington, D. C.

The report indicated that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER indicated that he is an attorney by profession and is an associate of SAMUEL LEVINE and specializes in the practice of labor law.

ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER and his wife, SARAH SCHLESINGER, the father and mother of SIDNEY SCHLESINGER, according to the information contained in Stone's Mercantile Agency's files, under date of October 11, 1941, resided at 4721 49th Street, N. W. They formerly resided at 1300 Ingraham Street, N.W., where they own the property at that address. They operate a cleaning and dying establishment at 2006 18th Street, N. W., under the name, Primrose Cleaners, Tailors, and Dyers. Prior to coming to Washington, D. C., in 1936, they are reported to have resided at 1898 Harrison Avenue, Bronx, New York.

In Washington Field Office file, entitled " MARY MANDEL SCHLESINGER, Assistant Clerk-Stenographer, Division of Labor Standards, Department of Labor, INTERNAL SECURITY - Hatch ACT", report dated March 14, 1942, by Special Agent LOGAN J. LANE, the background information of the SCHLESINGER family is set forth.

ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER and his wife, SARA, were born in Poland, which was then a part of Russia. They came to the United States in 1907, and were later naturalized. They have resided in the District of Columbia since 1936, formerly residing at 1300 Ingraham Street, N. W., and presently residing at 4721 49th Street, N. W.

The above file reflects the information that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER and his wife, MARY SCHLESINGER, were constantly attending meetings which were Communistic or radical in nature and that numerous meetings were held at 1300 Ingraham Street, N. W., as well as a camp on the Patuxent River, owned by ABRAHAM and SARAH SCHLESINGER. This file reflects that SAMUEL LEVINE is listed as a Communist attorney by the New York Police Department; The Washington Police Department; The Dies Committee; and the Civil Service Commission. He is supposed to act as an attorney for the Communists in Washington, D. C., who get into trouble. It is reported that he has been an attorney for "The League Against War and Fascism" and for the "Workers Alliance". The above file contains information furnished by Mr. EDWARD DICKER, 734 9th Street, N. W., that JEROME NEWMAN worked about one and one-half years for the DICKER Brothers until January 1940. NEWMAN is the husband of FREDA SCHLESINGER/NEWMAN, who is the daughter of ABRAHAM and MARY SCHLESINGER.

NEWMAN is supposed to have admitted to DICKER that he was an out-and-out Communist and that all members of the SCHLESINGER family were also Communists. He said that the family would attend meetings at 1300 Ingraham Street, N. W., or at some other address in the city, two to three times a week. NEWMAN also told DICKER that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER is an attorney for the Communist Party in the Washington, D. C., area, including the various front organizations.

The above file also reflects that Special Agent LANE interviewed MEYER REISS. MEYER REISS was formerly married to SYLVIA SCHLESINGER and lived with the SCHLESINGER family at 1300 Ingraham Street, N. W., from 1938 to August, 1940. He was the original informant of the Civil Service Commission in its investigation concerning JULIUS SCHLESINGER and SYLVIA SCHLESINGER REISS, who have been discharged from the Government service and barred from taking Civil Service Examinations for a period of three years by the Civil Service Commission as a result of their Communistic tendencies and activities. The results of this interview with REISS, as well as the information he has furnished on previous occasions to the Civil Service Commission, is set out in great detail in the above-mentioned file and is not being included in this report.

This file also contains the result of the neighborhood inquiries concerning SIDNEY SCHLESINGER and the results of this investigation are being briefly summarized.

SIDNEY SCHLESINGER and his wife, MARY, formerly resided at 1441 Spring Road, N. W., Apartment #303. They were reported to be undesirable tenants because they made a great deal of noise and appeared to have frequent meetings at their apartment. At their present address, 124 Webster Street, SIDNEY and MARY SCHLESINGER apparently do not mix with the other tenants of the apartment and do not become acquainted with other tenants very easily. It has been noted that very often a large group of people assemble in the apartment of JEROME NEWMAN and that MARY and SIDNEY SCHLESINGER would attend. No definite information was established as to the exact nature of the various meetings held, or attended by SIDNEY and MARY SCHLESINGER.

The above file also reflects that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER has been present at meetings in the company of MARTIN CHANCEY, Secretary of the Communist Party for the District of Columbia, and that it has been noted that SCHLESINGER and CHANCEY are extremely well acquainted with each other.

The informant in the above-matter, stated that in his opinion SIDNEY SCHLESINGER is a member of the underground Communist Party.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.:

- * Will make appropriate inquiry around 2006 18th Street, N. W., the place of employment of the parents ABRAHAM and SARAH SCHLESINGER.
- * Will make appropriate inquiry as to the location of Camp Patuxent and learn of Communist meetings are held there.
- * Will attempt to learn the identity of JOHN LINCOLN and if successful, will question him for any other pertinent information he may have concerning the subjects in this case.

Will conduct a discreet neighborhood inquiry concerning SAMUEL LEVINE, who resides 220 Allison Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Will make inquiry of Communist informants of this office concerning the activities of SAMUEL LEVINE and SIDNEY SCHLESINGER.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FILE NO. 100-467

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	8/26/42	8/14,15,17/42	O. H. SELLS OHS:GMZ
TITLE		CHARACTER OF CASE	
SIDNEY SCHLESINGER; SARAH SCHLESINGER; ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER; SAMUEL LEVINE.		INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Neighborhood inquiry concerning ABRAHAM and SARAH SCHLESINGER in the vicinity of 2006 - 18th Street, N. W., failed to develop information concerning their possible Communistic activities. The identity of JOHN LINCOLN, original informant concerning the SCHLESINGER family, has not been ascertained. Neighbors of SAMUEL LEVINE at 220 Allison Street, N. W., were unable to furnish information concerning his activities. LEVINE presently has his law office in the National Press Building.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent O. H. SELLS, dated June 5, 1942, at Washington, D. C.

DETAILS: At Washington, D. C.

Mrs. ALICE HEWITT, Manager of the general store known as the Harolds, at 2002 - 18th Street, N. W., advised that she had been manager of the store at that address for four years. She has not been closely associated with ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER although he operates his tailor shop and dry cleaning establishment only a few doors up the street. Mrs. HEWITT stated that formerly, they took some of their clothes to his shop to be altered and that from her observation, he was a quiet sort of person and

100-474893-3

APPROVED AND FORWARDED		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES		
<i>Sk. M. O. Sells</i>		<i>311</i>	<i>100-474893-3</i>	<i>100-474893-3</i>	<i>100-474893-3</i>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		RECORDED			
5 Bureau 3 - Washington Field, 288 SEP 19 1963		INDEXED			
14 400 22 000 NW 17 1954					

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-474893-3

was not very well known in the immediate vicinity. His wife, SARAH SCHLESINGER, no longer works in the tailor shop although several years ago, she would assist him from time to time. Mrs. HEWITT has never heard anyone in the community criticize ABRAHAM or SARAH SCHLESINGER concerning their loyalty or patriotism. She has no knowledge which would indicate to her that they are engaged in any sort of Communistic activity. As a matter of fact, she stated that she could not express an opinion either way, inasmuch as they close their shop usually at 7:00 P.M. and are there only during the business portion of the day, whereas several other shops in the immediate vicinity remain open until 9:00 and 10:00. Mrs. HEWITT advised that the next door neighbors to the tailor shop were new people in the vicinity and would not in all probability be acquainted with the SCHLESINGERS.

Mr. HAROLD KOTZIN, owner and manager of the 10 to 25¢ store at 2001 - 18th Street, advised that he had been in business in that vicinity before the SCHLESINGERS opened their tailor shop several years ago. He indicated that ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER is a quiet sort of person, does not seem to spend a great deal of time with neighbors in the vicinity of his shop, and as a matter of fact, does not seem to spend as much time in his shop as he formerly did. KOTZIN stated that he is Jewish and indicated that he believed SCHLESINGER to be Jewish and expressed the opinion that it seemed to him that of all people, they should be the most thankful for what this country offers to people of that race. He advised that he knows of nothing of a suspicious nature concerning the activities of SCHLESINGER and that he has no knowledge of any un-American or subversive activities that he might be engaged in. He has never heard anyone in the community discuss him unfavorably from this standpoint. Mr. KOTZIN advised that there were no other neighbors in the immediate vicinity of subject's shop whom he would recommend contacting. He stated that there is an old tailor in the neighborhood, but that he is a very gossipy sort of individual and is not extremely reliable. In view of this information, no further contacts were made in the neighborhood.

JOHN LINCOLN, the person who originally telephonically contacted the Washington Field Office to furnish information concerning the SCHLESINGER family, has not been identified. Inasmuch as several members of the family about whom he furnished information were employed by the Labor Department at that time, it was believed he might have been a fellow employee. Accordingly the personnel files of the Labor Department were checked but the writer was advised they have no record of a JOHN LINCOLN ever having been employed with that Department. Inasmuch as the original information he furnished largely concerned another member of the SCHLESINGER family, it is not deemed advisable to make further efforts to locate this individual.

ERNEST R. CLIFTON, who is employed as a clerk in the Labor Department, was contacted at his apartment, 220 Allison Street, N. W., for information concerning subject LEVINE, who resides at that address. Mr. CLIFTON advised that he has resided at this address for over a year but that he has not become acquainted with LEVINE during this period of time. He does not know him either by sight or reputation.

ROGER CHAMBERS, janitor of the apartment building at 220 Allison Street, advised that LEVINE moved into the building about a year ago. He is not very well known to the other tenants of the building, inasmuch as both he and his wife work during the day and spend a great deal of time away from the apartment at night. CHAMBERS has never heard anyone complain concerning any meetings or disturbances of any kind in the LEVINE apartment. He has no knowledge of any hostile Communistic activities or associations of LEVINE.

Mr. LEO FITZER, superintendent of the Southern Building, advised that LEVINE and SCHLESINGER had moved their law office from that building and presently occupy space in the National Press Building.

~~ALBERT~~ BRICK, attorney with offices at 1010 Vermont Avenue, N. W., was interviewed in his office and advised that he formerly occupied space in the Southern Building with LEVINE and SCHLESINGER along with about ten other attorneys. He indicated that he would possibly be accused of prejudice, but that he did not have a good word to say for either LEVINE or SCHLESINGER. He stated that it was generally well known that they have been mixed up in Communistic affairs for the past several years, and he stated he could not furnish concrete evidence, but recalled the time he lived on Kinyon Street several years ago that a family lived next door to him who held Communistic meetings in their apartment all the time. He stated that the woman's husband operated a tailor shop known as the Fashion Cleaners and Dyers at 3920 - 12th Street, N. E. This man's wife came to see LEVINE and SCHLESINGER almost every day. This continued up until the time that they moved from the Southern Building a few months ago. He stated that they had some difficulty with LEVINE and SCHLESINGER because of the way they conducted their office and that he refused to associate with them or have anything to do with them. He stated that in his own mind, he knows him to be tied up with the Communists and that he would not trust them with anything having to do with our national defense or our national government.

As a result of Mr. BRICK'S recalling that the wife of the owner of the Fashion Cleaners and Dyers at 3920 - 12th Street, N. E., frequently contacted LEVINE, a check of the Washington Field Office files was made and reflected that the owner of this tailor shop is ~~HARRY~~ PLOTNICK. His wife's name is BESSIE, and their daughter is ~~FLORENCE~~ PLOTNICK. According to the files of the Washington Field Office, FLORENCE PLOTNICK was secretary to ~~MARTIN~~ CHANCEY, Communist Party official in Washington, D. C. Mr. BRICK advised that he could not furnish any information concerning the type of law practice carried on by SCHLESINGER and LEVINE with the exception that he believed they handled certain labor cases. He was unable to furnish further specific information concerning their possible connection with the Communist Party activities in the District.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

- * Will make appropriate inquiry as to the location of Camp Patuxent and learn if Communist meetings are held there.
- * Will make inquiry of Communist informants of this office concerning the activities of SAMUEL LEVINE and SIDNEY SCHLESINGER.

January 23, 1948

Miss Marjorie Herritt
Executive Secretary
The National Conference
of Bar Examiners
514 Equitable Building
DENVER 2, Colorado
RECORDED ~~1/20/48~~ 3/9
INDEXED Dear Miss Herritt: 100-414893-4

EX-10

Your letter dated January 7, 1948, has been received. The information contained in the files of this Bureau is confidential and available for official use only. I am sure you will draw no inference whatsoever from my inability to comply with your request. I have instructed Mr. R. P. Kroener, Special Agent in Charge of our Denver Office, 518 Railway Exchange Building, Denver 2, Colorado, to call upon you in the near future concerning this matter.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC: Denver, with copy of incoming

ATTENTION: SAC. Bureau files reflect a cordial relationship with The National Conference of Bar Examiners in the past. You should contact Miss Herritt and advise her orally that she might desire to consult the ~~Dis~~ Committee reports, and request additional information concerning ~~COMMUNICATIONS~~ ^{SECRET} partner of Sidney Carl Schlesinger, from the District of Columbia Bar Association. You should also advise her that it might be advantageous to communicate with the Metropolitan Police Department concerning 1948 lip Levine. Her attention should also be drawn to the Civil Service Commission as a possible source of information concerning these ~~SECRET~~ individuals. It should be pointed out to Miss Herritt that these suggestions are made in the strictest confidence. You should advise the Bureau of the results of your contact with Miss Herritt and the information furnished her entitled "Research."

VWP:mfl:jmi

NOV 17 1954

NOTE: Bureau file 100-2404 shows Sidney Carl Schlesinger to be an ardent follower of the Communist Party line at least, and he is, in all probability, a member of the Party. Rare is his associate who is not either a Party member or closely identified with its work. His brother, Julius, is a Party member and according to information believed to be reliable, he has held Communist meetings in his house, and is a strong Party worker. Sidney Schlesinger's law partner, Samuel Levine, is the lawyer for the Communist Party in Washington, D. C., and has been seen in attendance at Communist gatherings. There is no information, however, other than mentioned above, which is a matter of public record. In view of the cordial relationship which has existed between the Bureau and the National Conference of Bar Examiners in the past, the Denver Office has been instructed to have an Agent contact Miss Merritt ~~and furnish the information verbally that Sidney Carl Schlesinger is closely identified with highly circumspect individuals in Washington, D. C.~~

Follow-up made 2-23-48

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BAR EXAMINERS

MARJORIE MERRITT, Executive Secretary

Please address all replies
in care of the office of the
Conference at Denver, Colorado

514 Equitable Building
Denver 2, Colorado

GEORGE H. TURNER, Chairman, Lincoln, Nebr.
JAMES E. BRENNER, Secretary, Palo Alto, Calif.

January 7, 1948

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Officers and

WARREN F. CRESSY, Ex-officio, Stamford, Conn.
H. P. OSBORNE, Chairman-Elect, Jacksonville, Fla.
TAPPAN GREGORY, Chicago, Ill.
THOMAS F. McDONALD, St. Louis, Mo.
EUGENE GLENN, San Diego, Calif.
GEORGE W. DALZELL, Washington, D.C.
HORACE E. ALLEN, Springfield, Mass.
JOHN T. DEGRAFF, Albany, N.Y.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Mr. Sidney Carl Schlesinger has applied for admission to the bar of California, and we have been preparing the required character report. His history is attached and the information obtained so far indicates that he and his partner, Samuel Levine, have specialized in labor law.

One of the bar examiners for the District of Columbia has advised us that Mr. Schlesinger has been representing left wing Labor Unions, that it is strongly rumored his legal association has been to a large extent with what is known as the "front organizations", and that if Mr. Schlesinger were applying for admission to the bar of the District of Columbia this phase of his activities would be very carefully investigated. It was suggested that we write to you concerning this matter to determine whether or not you have any information which could be made available for the confidential use of the California Committee of Bar Examiners.

Yours sincerely,

Marjorie Merritt

Executive Secretary

MM:hba

Enc.

3 100-414893-4
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EX-25 15 JAN 31 1948

SIDNEY C. SCHLESINGER
Carl

Born in New York City on May 26, 1908.

College - College of the City of New York - 1926-1927
George Washington University - Feb.-June 1927
No degree

Law Study - Brooklyn Law School - 1927-1930, LL.B.

Admitted to the bar of New York Nov. 16, 1931
District Court of the U.S. for
Dist. of Columbia - June 15, 1937
D.C. Court of Appeals - March 11, 1938

Law Practice and
Employment - Nov. 1931 - Sept. 1932 - employed by Jesse L. Stern, 401 Broadway, N.Y.C.

Oct. 1932 - Sept. 1936 - employed by Philip Silverman, 348 Madison Ave., N.Y.C.

October 1936 - April 1937 - at 565 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C., sharing space with Harry Berke and Leon Turret

May 1937-June 1937 - at 295 Madison Ave., N.Y.C., sharing space with Joseph L. Forscher

Aug. 1937 - Oct. 1938 - partner of Samuel Levine, 740 Munsey Bldg., Wash. D.C.

Nov. 1938 - May 1939 - partner of Samuel Levine, 819 Southern Bldg., Wash. D.C.

May 1939 - April 1942 - with Mr. Levine at 619 Southern Building, Wash. D.C.

July 1942 - Nov. 1945 in Army

Dec. 1945 - August 1947 with Samuel Levine at 820 National Press Building

Present address: 585 N. Lucerne Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.

Applying for admission to bar of California.

160-414893-4
~~100-2104-37~~

INCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, F.B.I.

DATE: February 12, 1948

FROM: *Rue* SAC, DENVERSUBJECT: MISS MARJORIE MERRITT
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BAR EXAMINERS
DENVER, COLORADO
RESEARCH

Rebulet to Miss MERRITT dated January 23, 1948, concerning SIDNEY CARL SCHLESINGER.

Miss MERRITT was personally contacted on January 31, 1948, by Special Agent EUGENE J. COBLE of this office and orally furnished with the information received from the Bureau on a copy of the letter to Miss MERRITT as an addendum. It was pointed out to Miss MERRITT that the suggestions made were made in the strictest confidence. She is fully cognizant of the confidential nature of the suggestions and will regard them as such. The relationship between Miss MERRITT and this office has always been cordial. She understands the Bureau's position in these matters and is appreciative of any suggestions that can be made to her.

EJC:eck
62-614

NOV 17 1954

5-1 FEB 20 1948

follow up 259
filed 2-18-48. *el*W
RECORDED

EX-1A

100-414893-5
100-414890
FEB 15 1948Follow up
J.W.

CODED - 61

~~100-2404-64~~

September 10, 1952

~~100-414893-6~~

Mr. Robert A. Collier
Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Collier:

Your letter dated September 3, 1952, together with the enclosure, an anonymous letter, has been received.

I appreciate your interest in furnishing this information.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Note On Yellow Only:

Correspondent is former SA who was assigned to SOG.

Bureau files contain considerable information concerning Sidney C. Schiesinger and Samuel Levine.

Upon completion of file review, this information will be furnished to the Department and to WFO.

TOC:jdt

SEP 11 10 43 AM '52
FBI - WASH. D. C.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
DIRECTOR

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U. S.
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
SUBCOMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 3, 1952

Fig.)

The Honorable
J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of an undated and unsigned letter, addressed to Congressman Frank L. Chelf, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, which is self-explanatory. Since the matter does not come within the jurisdiction of this Subcommittee, it would appear to be a matter for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Collier
Chief Counsel

lis

Per Deputy A. J.
C. Miller
cc: Mrs. S.
9-22-12 TAC

EXPEDITE PROCESSING

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 10/1/1990 -

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Y

~~SECRET INFORMATION - COMMUNIST~~

Dear Sir:

For the welfare of our country, I write concerning a statement made by a person known by official records to have been for many years a member and a top official of the Communist party in Washington, D. C. This statement reveals that Samuel Levine and Sidney C. Schiesinger, law partners in the National Press Building, 14th and F Streets, N. W., Washington, D. C., telephone National 5821, are and have been the secret legal advisers for the Communist Party in Washington, and have runners that make direct contact with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, a branch of the Department of Justice. In other words, should a Communist alien gain entrance into the United States who could not legally remain, but who is financially able to employ counsel to represent him, the above named lawyers contact somebody in the Department who in turn may contact some Congressman to influence him to file a special bill in behalf of the Communist alien to assure his remaining in the United States.

It would appear that such outside influence is more dangerous than the questionable and unethical Government employees who can be kept under scrutiny.

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238 SEP 19 1962

~~SECRET INFORMATION - COMMUNIST~~

100-414893-6

~~100-414893-6~~

ENCLOSURE

cc: Belmont

Mr. Ross L. Malone, Jr.
Deputy Attorney General

Director, FBI

September 22, 1952

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SIDNEY C. SCHLESINGER;
~~SAMUEL LEVINE~~
SECURITY MATTER - C

By letter dated September 3, 1952, Mr. Robert A. Collier, Chief Counsel of the Subcommittee to Investigate the Department of Justice of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, furnished a copy of an anonymous letter, a Photostat of which is attached. The contents of this anonymous communication are self-explanatory.

The files of this Bureau reflect that the Sidney C. Schlesinger referred to is undoubtedly Sidney C. Schlesinger. Information was received in 1941, that Schlesinger and his wife were members of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action.

Another Government agency in 1941, advised that Schlesinger's sister, Sylvia S. Reiss, and his brother, Julius Schlesinger, were both ruled to be not suitable for Government employment and were barred from further consideration for a period of three years. A brother-in-law of Schlesinger's advised in 1941, that both Schlesinger and his wife were active in the Communist Party.

Another Government agency advised that they had received information in 1942, that Schlesinger was reportedly an attorney for the International Labor Defense. 100-2404

In 1948, a confidential informant of known reliability advised that Schlesinger was known to him as a member of the Communist Party during the period 1939 to 1942. 101-1880

In regard to Samuel Levine, the files of this Bureau reflect that he was born August 22, 1907, at Newark, New Jersey, and that he has resided in Washington, D. C., since 1923. Since 1938, he has been associated with Sidney C. Schlesinger and at the present time maintains offices at the National Press Building.

RECORDED - 64

In 1943, an informant of known reliability advised that at that time Levine had been a member of the Communist

2 - cc Washington Field (Enclosure) B I

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Party for ten years. Another informant of known reliability advised that Levine was known to him as a member of the Communist Party during the period 1939 to 1942, and that he had attended Communist Party meetings in Levine's office in 1937. Information has been received indicating that Levine has acted as an attorney for the Communist Party, Civil Rights Congress, and other Communist Party front organizations in the past.

In 1948 and 1949, he was reported to be Chairman of the Nominating Committee and a member of the Executive Board of the District of Columbia Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild.

In December, 1949, according to an informant, Levine agreed to contribute financially to the defense of the attorneys held in contempt by Federal Judge Harold Medina during the course of the trial of the Communist Party leaders in New York City.

It was further reported in January, 1951, that Levine asked to be dropped from membership in the National Lawyers Guild for nonpayment of dues advising that his clients were pressing him to leave the Guild but that he did not wish to resign. (101-1880)

The above is being furnished for your information and this Bureau is conducting no investigation concerning the allegations contained in the anonymous letter in the absence of a specific request.

Enclosure

cc: Assistant Attorney General Charles B. Murray (Enclosure)
Criminal Division CONFIDENTIAL

cc: The Commissioner (Enclosure)
Immigration and Naturalization Service CONFIDENTIAL

SAC, Washington Field: Refer to your file 100-467 and 101-790.

You should search your files for any information indicating current Communist Party or Communist Party front activity on the part of Schlesinger and his wife and thereafter be guided by current Bureau instructions concerning the handling of security investigations.

Note On Yellow Only: Investigation concerning Schlesinger and Levine are both presently in a closed status. Samuel Levine is currently the subject of a Security Index card, WFO origin.

Office Memorandum • UNITED GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, WFO (100-26489)

SUBJECT: SIDNEY CARL SCHLESINGER
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: December 5, 1952

21
Rebulet 9-22-52.

By letter dated 9-22-52 the WFO was furnished with a copy of an anonymous letter concerning the activities of the above captioned. A copy of this letter, the contents of which are self explanatory, is being forwarded to the Los Angeles Office for its information.

WFO instituted inquiries to ascertain the present CP activities of SIDNEY SCHLESINGER and his wife, MARY, with particular attention to the allegation set out in the anonymous letter.

Investigation in Washington, D. C., reflected that SCHLESINGER has not been active in D. C. in the past few years and is unknown to the active security informants of WFO.

Review of the numerous references on SCHLESINGER reflected that as of June, 1948, SCHLESINGER and his wife had moved from 2300 North Washington Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia, to 585 Lucrene Street, Los Angeles, California.

A check of the 1952 edition of the Martindale and Hubbell Law Directory disclosed, on page 123, that a SIDNEY C. SCHLESINGER, born 1908 and admitted to the Bar, 1931, received a law degree at City College, New York City, New York, was practicing law at the Roosevelt Building, Los Angeles, California.

Further references in WFO files reflected that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER was active in the National Lawyers' Guild, Washington, D. C. as late as 1947. He is reported as having been the attorney for Local #10 of the United Shoemakers' Union, D. C., and the International Labor Defense. In 1948, a confidential informant of known reliability advised that SCHLESINGER was known to him

JAE:tcb

CC: Los Angeles (1 Encl)

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WFO 100-26489

as a CP member from 1939 through 1942. A brother-in-law advised in 1941 that the entire SCHLESINGER family were Communists. It is to be noted that in 1941, SCHLESINGER's sister, SYLVIA S. REISS and his brother, JULIUS YALE SCHLESINGER, were declared not suitable for government employment due to Communistic activities and were removed from their positions.

While in Washington, D. C., SCHLESINGER was a partner in the law firm of LEVINE and SCHLESINGER, located in the National Press Building, 14th and F Streets, NW, Washington. The 1952 telephone directory lists SIDNEY C. SCHLESINGER, Attorney, as having offices in this location. Mr. JOSEPH BUSHER, Manager of the National Press Building, however, has advised that he is familiar with the above firm and, to the best of his recollection, SCHLESINGER has never been in the building. Mr. BUSHER believes that they still may be connected for business purposes and that SCHLESINGER uses the address as a mail drop. It should be pointed out that SCHLESINGER's partner, SAMUEL LEVINE, has been identified by informants of known reliability as having been a CP member from 1939 through 1942 and that he has acted as attorney for the CP, D. C., and the Civil Rights Congress.

With regard to MARY MANDEL SCHLESINGER, subject's wife, the WFO files reflect that she was formerly employed as a clerk in the Department of Labor from January, 1939, to April, 1943. Further review reflects that MARY SCHLESINGER was active in the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, the League for Peace and Democracy and, according to WFO informants, she admitted being a CP member in NY under the name of MARIE REESE.

The above background has been set out for the information of the Los Angeles Office which is requested to determine the residence and employment of both SIDNEY and MARY SCHLESINGER and to notify WFO so that proper steps may be taken to transfer origin of this case to the Los Angeles Office.

5/21/21

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

~~SEARCHED~~ ~~INDEXED~~ ~~MAILED~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 6, 1953

FROM :

SAC, WFO (100-26489)

SUBJECT:

SIDNEY CARL SCHLESINGER
SECURITY MATTER - C

BB

The captioned individual has been the subject of a security investigation by this office. The Los Angeles Division has verified the permanent presence of the subject in its division as residing and working at the addresses listed below. The Los Angeles Division is being considered as the new office of origin.

Residence Address: 585 North Lucerne Boulevard,
Los Angeles, California

Business Address: J. Newman Paper Company,
5150 Jefferson Boulevard,
Los Angeles, California

Check the following applicable statements:

This individual has been the subject of a Communist Index Card.

This individual is the subject of a Security Index Card.

(The Bureau is requested to make the appropriate changes in the Security Index at the Seat of Government. The _____ Division should affix the addresses reflected above and the appropriate case file number.)

This subject was tabbed for Detcom.

This subject was tabbed for Comsab.

This subject was carried as a Key Figure or Top Functionary.

Handwriting specimens have been furnished to the Bureau.

A photograph has been furnished to the Bureau.

A security flash notice has been placed with the Identification Division.

The following pertinent items are being forwarded to the new office of origin with its copies of this letter:

Security Index Cards

RECORDED - 10

~~100-41489-3~~ ~~100-2407-67~~

MAR 12 1953

Serials (specify)

Report of Special Agent JAMES A. EGAN dated March 6,
1953, at Washington, D. C.

NOV 17 1954 *bw*

~~SEARCHED~~ ~~INDEXED~~ ~~MAILED~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

cc: Los Angeles 305 Division (Enc.) (100-44371)

JAN 20 1954 *bw*

Registered Mail

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: March 6, 1953

FROM : SAC, WFO (100-26489)

SUBJECT: SIDNEY CARL SCHLESINGER
SECURITY MATTER - C~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

Enclosed herewith are five copies of the report of Special Agent JAMES A. EGAN dated March 6, 1953, at Washington, D. C., copies of which have been forwarded to Los Angeles Division, the new office of origin.

For the information of the Los Angeles Division, SIDNEY CARL SCHLESINGER is the husband of MARY MANDEL SCHLESINGER, Los Angeles File Number 100-44372, and the brother of JULIUS YALE SCHLESINGER, Los Angeles File Number 100-30031. Los Angeles is already in possession of all available material in the WFO files concerning JULIUS YALE SCHLESINGER. Results of investigation in Washington, D. C., regarding MARY MANDEL SCHLESINGER have been forwarded to Los Angeles under separate cover by Form FD 128, dated February 18, 1953.

JAE:GJM

2 - Los Angeles (100-44371) *Rm.*

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MAR 12 1953

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED ATLOS ANGELES
~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE MAR 6 1953	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/6, 8, 12; 2/3-5, 11, 12, 16/53	REPORT MADE BY JAMES A. EGAN GJM
TITLE SIDNEY CARL SCHLESINGER		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

SIDNEY SCHLESINGER has been identified as a member of the CPDC from approximately 1932 to 1940. MEYER REISS, subject's brother-in-law, advised that the entire SCHLESINGER family were Communists and ardent Party workers. Informants in 1941 believe SCHLESINGER to be member of Underground. SCHLESINGER's name appeared on the active indices of the American Peace Mobilization and the Washington Committee for Democratic Action in 1941. The subject was a member of the National Lawyers Guild as late as June 1947, and, while serving as Chairman, Special Committee on D. C. Affairs, was nominated for the Executive Board in 1939. SCHLESINGER closely associated with MARTIN CHAUNCEY, Secretary of the CPDC, from 1936 to 1941. SCHLESINGER observed attending affairs of the Jewish Peoples Committee. Description set out.

RUC

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~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURE

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>PSB</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>PSB</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
		100-414893-10	SE 24
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		100-2704-68	RECORDED INDEXED 10 10
5 - Bureau 3 - Los Angeles (100-44371) (RM) 2 - Washington Field (100-26489)		MAR 12 1953 100-2704-68 SEARCHED INDEXED APR 1 1953	

PROPERTY OF FBI - This confidential report and its contents are loaned to you by the FBI and are not to be distributed outside of agency to which loaned.

WFO 100-26489

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

All informants mentioned in this report are of known reliability unless otherwise stated.

I. BACKGROUND

A. BIRTH

~~The~~ records of the D. C. Credit Bureau reflect that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER was born on May 26, 1908, at New York, New York.

B. CITIZENSHIP

In view of the above, SCHLESINGER is a United States citizen by birth.

C. EDUCATION

According to the 1952 edition of the Martindale Hubble Law Directory, SCHLESINGER received his law degree from the City College of New York in 1931.

D. MARITAL STATUS

The files of the Los Angeles Retail Merchants Credit Association reflected that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER is still married to MARY SCHLESINGER. The records of the D. C. Credit Bureau reflect that SIDNEY and MARY SCHLESINGER were married in November 1933 in New York, New York.

E. CRIMINAL RECORD

No record was located for SIDNEY SCHLESINGER in the files of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C.

F. MILITARY SERVICE

No information is available to indicate any service on subject's part.

G. EMPLOYMENT

The files of the Los Angeles Retail Merchants Credit Association, checked on December 31, 1952, reflect that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER is employed as attorney and owner of the J. Newman Paper Company, 5150 Jefferson Boulevard, Los Angeles, California.

The D. C. Credit Bureau, Washington, D. C., contains information in its files which reflects that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER became the law partner of SAMUEL LEVINE in 1938 with offices at 819 Southern Building and later in the National Press Building. The Building Directory of the National Press Building and the Washington, D. C., Telephone Directory for 1952 continues to list SCHLESINGER as a partner of this firm.

H. RESIDENCES

The files of the Los Angeles Credit Bureau reflect that the SCHLESINGERs reside at 585 North Lucerne Boulevard, Los Angeles, California.

The records of the D. C. Credit Bureau and Stones Merchantile Agency, Washington, D. C., reflect the following addressed for the SCHLESINGERs for the period 1938 to 1948:

2300 North Washington Boulevard,
Arlington, Virginia,
from 1946 to 1948;

124 Webster Street, Northwest,
Washington, D. C.,
from 1942 to 1946;

1041 Spring Road, Northwest,
Washington, D. C.
from 1940 to 1941;

1300 Ingraham Street, Northwest,
Washington, D. C.,
from 1938 to 1940;

3204 Holland Avenue,
Bronx, New York, New York,
prior to 1938.

II. CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY

The Communist Party has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

A. MEMBERSHIP

T-1, who has been known to furnish both reliable and unreliable information, advised that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER was known to him as an active member of the Communist Party in Washington, D. C., from 1932 to 1938. This source, however, stated that he did not know SCHLESINGER personally.

WFO 100-26489
met

In July 1941, MEYER REISS advised that he was extremely well acquainted with the activities of the entire SCHLESINGER family, having lived with them at 1300 Ingraham Street, Northwest, as the husband of the subject's sister, ~~SYLVIA SCHLESINGER~~. REISS stated that JULIUS YALE SCHLESINGER had mentioned to him during the period 1938 to 1940 that all the SCHLESINGERS were Communists and ardent Party workers.

~~MRS~~ T-2 advised in December 1952 that ~~SIDNEY SCHLESINGER~~ was known to the informant as a member of the Communist Party from the early part of 1937 to the early 1940's.

T-3, of unknown reliability, advised that he had been a member of the Communist Party for approximately four years in Washington, D. C., and that, although during that time he observed SCHLESINGER in the company of persons who were known to him as Communists, he had never seen SCHLESINGER's credentials signifying Communist Party membership. It was the opinion of this source, however, that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER was a member of the Underground Communist Party. He stated that he based this opinion on his observation of the activities of SCHLESINGER during the period of approximately 1937 to 1942.

T-4, of unknown reliability, who had previously been connected with the Communist Party in an official capacity, advised that it was the informant's opinion that SCHLESINGER was a member of the Communist Party Underground in Washington, D. C., in 1941.

B. ACTIVITY IN AND AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY

1. Meetings

~~MARY~~ MEYER REISS, upon interview in July 1941, stated that SIDNEY and ~~MARY~~ SCHLESINGER were constantly attending meetings of some front organization or another and that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER liked to make speeches at these meetings. He implied that these meetings were Communistic in nature. REISS further advised that numerous meetings were held at 1300 Ingraham Street, Northwest, as well as at a camp on the Patuxent River which was owned by ~~ABRAHAM~~ and ~~SARAH~~ SCHLESINGER, subject's parents. REISS stated that these meetings were conducted by JULIUS SCHLESINGER, subject's brother, and ~~ROY~~ ~~HUDSON~~ WELLS. REISS stated that WELLS, during this time, was Secretary to MARTIN CHAUNCEY, Secretary of the Communist Party of the District of Columbia. The subject matter of these meetings was ostensibly "dialectical materialism,"

but that they were actually discussions of a subversive or Communistic nature, including the overthrow of the capitalistic system.

2. Affiliation with Communist Party

MEYER REISS, upon interview in July 1941, stated that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER was a partner in the law firm of LEVINE and SCHLESINGER. He identified SAM LEVINE as a Communist Party member and stated that the firm had represented the Communist Party in a number of court actions in Washington, D. C.

With regard to SAM LEVINE, it is to be noted that T-2, in March 1947, had stated that SAM LEVINE was known to the informant as having been a member of the Communist Party of the District of Columbia during the period of 1939 to 1942.

On April 8, 1947, MARY STALCUP MARKWARD, an admitted member of the Communist Party and the holder of an official position in the Party from 1943 to 1949, furnished information that either SAMUEL LEVINE or SIDNEY SCHLESINGER was contacted in an attempt to have them take legal action to force the radio stations and newspapers to carry the Communist Party broadcasts and advertisements. No later information is available to indicate which one of these individuals was contacted or to indicate whether or not action was taken by them.

3. Associates

It was ascertained from T-3, of unknown reliability, that the informant had been present at meetings at which SIDNEY SCHLESINGER was present in the company of MARTIN CHAUNCEY, Secretary of the Communist Party of the District of Columbia. The informant stated that he had observed the activities of CHAUNCEY and SCHLESINGER and stated that in his opinion they were extremely well acquainted with each other in the late 1930's.

C. COMMUNIST PARTY ALLEGATIONS REGARDING SCHLESINGER FAMILY

It is to be noted that MEYER REISS testified before a Loyalty Review Board in May 1941 concerning the Communist activities of the SCHLESINGER family. It was mainly through information furnished by this source that JULIUS YALE SCHLESINGER, subject's brother, and SYLVIA SCHLESINGER REISS, were removed from their jobs with the National

Defense Committee and the Office of Naval Intelligence, respectively. Also, as a result of the information furnished by REISS, MARY MANDEL SCHLESINGER, the subject's wife, was removed from her position with the Department of Labor. In July 1941, REISS was interviewed by Special Agent JOHN O'CONNOR and at this time REISS furnished substantially the same information concerning the SCHLESINGER family as he did at the Loyalty Review Board hearing. REISS stated that the entire SCHLESINGER family were Communists and strong sympathizers for the Communist cause. REISS stated that JULIUS YALE SCHLESINGER had admitted to him his membership in the Young Communist League and that he was closely associated with ROY HUDSON WELLS. With regard to ABRAHAM and SARAH SCHLESINGER, REISS described them as ardent Communists and faithful readers of the Daily Worker, the East Coast Communist Party publication. REISS stated that JEROME NEWMAN, who is married to FREIDA SCHLESINGER, had stated on a number of occasions that he and the other members of the SCHLESINGER family were ~~staund~~ Communists.

III. ACTIVITIES IN OTHER GROUPS

A. NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD

The National Lawyers Guild has been cited as a Communist front which is the foremost legal bulwark of the Communist Party, its front organizations, and controlled unions and which, since its inception has never failed to rally to the legal defense of the Communist Party and individual members thereof, including known espionage agents. This citation is located in the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities report on the National Lawyers Guild, House Report Number 3123, page 2150.

According to T-5, who furnished information in May 1941, the name SIDNEY SCHLESINGER, 819 Southern Building, Washington, D. C., appeared on a list described by the informant as being a list of the members of the National Lawyers Guild in Washington, D. C. It is further noted that the notation had been made concerning SCHLESINGER that "dues paid till June 5, 1939."

T-5 furnished information that he has observed a memorandum to the President and members of the D. C. Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild from the Nominating Committee which was dated November 15, 1939. This memorandum, according to the informant, reflected that SIDNEY SCHLESINGER was one of the nominees listed for the Executive Council.

WFO 100-26489

A thumbnail sketch of SCHLESINGER was forwarded for the information of those members who would be casting the votes in the comming election. Subject was described in this sketch as a member of the firm LEVINE and SCHLESINGER, Washington, D. C., and Chairman of the Special Committee on D. C. Affairs, D. C. Chapter.

T-6 furnished information in April 1948 that SCHLESINGER's name appeared on the 1946-47 membership list of the D. C. Chapter of this organization.

T-7 made available in December 1949 a list of names and addresses of both individuals and organizations maintained in the personal possession of ROBERT SILBERSTEIN, the Executive Secretary of the National Lawyers Guild. This list, according to the informant, indicated that SCHLESINGER, in addition to being a member of the Guild, was also a contact of SILBERSTEIN.

B. THE WASHINGTON COMMITTEE FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

The Washington Committee for Democratic Action has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

The indices of the House Committee on Un-American Activities reflect that SIDNEY C. SCHLESINGER of 1441 Spring Road, Northwest, was a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action as of 1941.

It was ascertained through T-8 in January 1941 that the active indices of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action contained the names of Mr. and Mrs. SIDNEY SCHLESINGER, 1441 Spring Road, Northwest.

T-8 further advised that the minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, held on September 9, 1940, noted the expressed appreciation of the Committee for the assistance of Mr. SIDNEY SCHLESINGER, a local attorney who had been assisting in the preparation of a bill to be filed on behalf of "certain organizations and individuals," testing the constitutionality of local ordinances requiring a license for street meetings. This bill, according to T-8, was brought about by a protest made by the Communist Party to the Washington Committee for Democratic action as the local chapter of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

C. AMERICAN PEACE MOBILIZATION

The American Peace Mobilization has been cited as Communistic by the Attorney General and coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

According to T-9, the names Mr. and Mrs. SIDNEY SCHLESINGER, 1441 Spring Road, Northwest, appeared in the active indices of the American Peace Mobilization. This organization was formerly known as the American Peoples Mobilization which carried out a program of picketing the White House in the summer of 1941.

D. JEWISH PEOPLES COMMITTEE

The Jewish Peoples Committee has been cited as subversive and Communistic by the Attorney General and coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

According to the information furnished by MEYER REISS in July 1941, SIDNEY and MARY SCHLESINGER attended meetings of the above organization with REISS at the Almas Temple in March 1938 and at the Press Club in Washington, D. C., in February 1939, and at the Standbury Masonic Lodge, Number 24, Washington, D. C. These meetings, according to REISS, were sponsored by the Jewish Peoples Committee and were concluded with the singing of the International with upraised clinched fists.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

REISS, in July 1941, stated that he had attended mixed racial dances at the Hayloft and at the Bookshop with both MARY and SIDNEY SCHLESINGER. Some of these dances, he stated, were sponsored by SIDNEY and MARY SCHLESINGER.

V. RECENT COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITY

T-10, T-11, T-12, T-13, T-14, and T-15 were contacted during October and November 1952 specifically to determine the Communist Party activity in the Washington area in the recent years on the part of SIDNEY SCHLESINGER. These sources were unable to furnish information concerning SCHLESINGER and in most cases SCHLESINGER was totally unknown to them.

With regard to SCHLESINGER's interest in the Communist Party movement, T-2 expressed the opinion that

WFO 100-26489

SCHLESINGER was never 100 per cent Communist. Informant always got the impression that SCHLESINGER was in the Communist movement because he knew the importance of the Communist Party in the CIO at that time. He seemed to think that the Communist Party would afford advantages to his career.

VI. DESCRIPTION

The following description of SCHLESINGER was obtained from previous investigation and review of records:

Born: May 26, 1908

Place: New York, New York

Citizenship: United States

Residence: 585 North Lucrene Boulevard,
Los Angeles, California

Education: LLB, City College of New York, 1931

Marital Status: Wife, MARY MANDEL SCHLESINGER,
married November 1933, New York,
New York

Brothers and Sisters: JULIUS YALE SCHLESINGER,
SYLVIA SCHLESINGER REISS,
FREDIA NEWMAN

Parents: ABRAHAM and SARAH SCHLESINGER.

RUC

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGEINFORMANTS

Information attributed to MARY STALCUP MARKWARD in this report was furnished on April 8, 1947, to Special Agent L. H. D. WILDMAN. (100-12968-154)

Information furnished by MEYER REISS in this report was obtained during interview by Special Agent JOHN C. O'CONNOR on July 31, 1941. (100-5118-22)

IDENTITY OF SOURCE	DESCRIPTION OF/AND DATE OF ACTIVITY	DATE FURNISHED	AGENT TO WHOM FURNISHED	FILE WHERE LOCATED
T-1 [REDACTED]	CP member- ship, 1932-38	1/42	T. W. DAWSEY (oral)	100-5118- 6-p7
T-2 [REDACTED]	CP membership 1937-40	12/11/52	THOMAS C. RIES (oral)	100-26489- 4
	Thumbnail of SCHLESINGER	12/11-52	THOMAS C. RIES (oral)	100-26489-4
T-3 [REDACTED]	Membership in Underground	1/42	LOGAN LANE (oral)	100-5118- 22
	Associations with MARTIN CHAUNCEY	1/42	LOGAN LANE (oral)	100-5118- 22
T-4 [REDACTED]	Membership in Underground	1/42	LOGAN LANE (oral)	100-5118- 22
T-5 Anonymous			FOIA(b) (7) - (D)	
T-6 Anonymous				
T-7 Anonymous				

WFO 100-26489

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

<u>IDENTITY OF SOURCE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION OF/AND DATE OF ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DATE FURNISHED</u>	<u>AGENT TO WHOM FURNISHED</u>	<u>FILE WHERE LOCATED</u>
T-8 Anonymous				
T-9 Anonymous				
T-10 [redacted]		10/18/52	JOSEPH E. KELLER	
T-11 [redacted]		10/28/52	THOMAS C. RIES	
T-12 [redacted]		10/30/52	WILLIAM P. SPRINGSTON	
T-13 [redacted]		11/9/52	THOMAS C. RIES	
T-14 [redacted]		11/12/52	WINFRED H. ANDERS	
T-15 [redacted]		11/12/52	ROBERT H. PAUL, Jr.	

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 28, 1953

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles (100-44371)

75581

SUBJECT: SIDNEY CARL SCHLESINGER
SECURITY MATTER - C
OO LOS ANGELES

Rerep of SA JAMES A. EGAN at Washington, D. C., dated 3/6/53.

A review of subject's file and the indices of this office fail to reflect that any information has been reported concerning subject which would warrant recommending him for the security index at this time. UACB this case is placed in a closed status subject to reopening at some future date should information be developed which would warrant such action.

KRM:lcr
100-44371

G.I.R. 9

F

RECORDED-42

100-414893-11
100-2404-69
MAY 1 1953EX-102
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